

Nuclear Engineering Education Program for Rhode Island (NEEPRI) Continuation

Executive Summary

The University of Rhode Island (URI) and the Rhode Island Nuclear Science Center (RINSC) are submitting this proposal. The goal of this project is to continue and complete the launch of a new nuclear engineering education program in Rhode Island and expand the program to include online learning for continuing education of industry professionals. This program will benefit from the recent “renaissance of nuclear power” in the United States, as well as our existing experienced faculty and staff and facilities including a research reactor, a renovated nuclear engineering laboratory (with funding assistance from the U.S. Department of Energy) and classroom. We also have started interaction with the staff at operating nuclear power plants in our region (i.e., Millstone 2&3). By including an online component in the program, the nuclear engineering courses will be available to a much broader professional and student community.

NEEPRI will provide a quick-start/short-pipe path to educating current engineering students majoring in mechanical, chemical, civil, and electrical engineering to complete a modern and relevant minor in nuclear engineering. We have developed four new courses during the first year and a half and have offered all four courses with a total enrollment of 43. Two additional new courses will be developed under this proposal and a comprehensive assessment of the program outcomes will be completed during summer 2011.

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